



Utah News



RTCA enlisted International Mountainbike Association to teach trail construction to volunteers in Draper, UT.

Recent Success

Parley's Creek Trail

Parley's Creek Trail received a \$10,500,000 federal transportation authorization in 2005. With the passage of Salt Lake County's Zoo, Arts, and Parks Sales Tax in November 2006, the full local match of \$2,625,000 has been appropriated by the county. In addition, Salt Lake County has appropriated \$275,000 in open space land acquisition funds, and Salt Lake City has approved two capital improvement grants totaling nearly \$500,000. The influx of funding will initiate three design contracts and one contract for construction of an interstate highway bike and pedestrian bridge in January 2007.



RTCA designed public meetings for Salt Lake County's Parley's Creek Trail Master Plan.

RTCA PROGRAM

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provides technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate. By investing in the protection of special places, recreation, tourism, and well planned development, local leaders can bring long-lasting economic and quality of life benefits to their communities.

Draper Corner Canyon Master Plan

The City of Draper adopted the RTCA assisted master plan for its new 1021-acre regional park in September 2006. RTCA has assisted development of a trails inventory on the park lands that will direct trail system development. One mile of new trail construction has been completed.

Great Basin National Heritage Route

One of the nation's newest National Heritage Areas, GBNHR was designated by the Congress and the President in late 2006.

"I am completely blown away by what our friends in Draper have accomplished since our initial visit 4 years ago (when RTCA assisted IMBA Trails Construction Workshop)... listen to this: They now have a legitimate 70 miles of trail, over 60 trail work days this season (average 45 people), 21 Eagle Scouts awarded, single track everywhere!!! I could go on all day about what the city, individuals and groups have created."

--Joey Kline, International Mountain Bike Association

Current Projects

1. Southwest Wildlife Foundation Nature Center

Project Goal: A regional wildlife rehabilitation and environmental education center is proposed that will also provide for community needs for outdoor recreation and tourism.

RTCA Role: RTCA is assisting to obtain partnerships and a common vision for the nature center park and program. A 23-acre parcel of land in the mouth of Cedar Canyon was donated by Utah Power to Southwest Wildlife Foundation. The property has been connected to the Cedar City trail system by a paved bicycle and pedestrian trail. RTCA prepared a facilities plan in 2005, including cost estimates, and budgets for the project, and continues to assist in grant writing.

NPS Contact: Duane Holmes

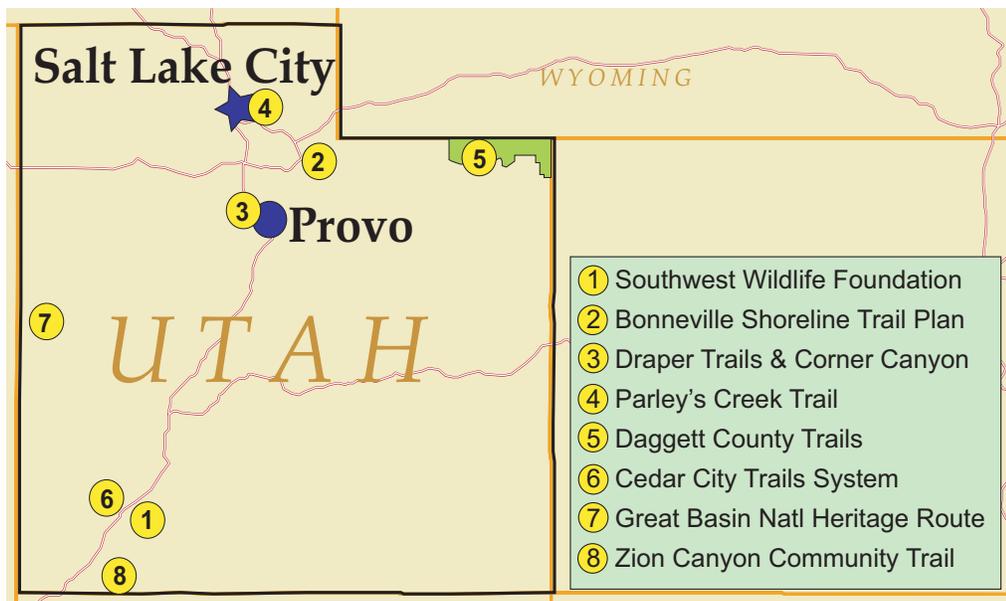
Partner: Southwest Wildlife Foundation



RTCA's Bonneville Shoreline Trail study team surveys a route for the trail in Salt Lake County.

2. Salt Lake County Bonneville Shoreline Trail Plan

Project Goal: Bonneville Shoreline Trail is a multi-jurisdictional effort. Salt Lake County government recognized the need to confirm routing the trail in suburban areas. Rapid development, particularly along the scenic ancient lake shoreline bench of the Wasatch Mountains, adds urgency to need to complete the trail. Trail development is nearly complete in Salt Lake City and Draper in Salt Lake County. Sections of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail have been developed in Weber, Davis Utah, and Cache Counties. A multi-agency coordinating council has formed, and a mapping/website effort is



supported by Mountainlands Association of Governments.

RTCA Role: RTCA assisted by GPS data collection for 56 miles of trail in Salt Lake County, writing a draft plan, and facilitating public workshops. The county published its plan for the trail route in January 2005. RTCA continues as an advisor on implementation, including participation in the U. S. Forest Service planning effort for the trail, Salt Lake County landowner negotiations, additional route definition in the southwest part of the Salt Lake County, and trail construction in Draper City.

NPS Contact: Duane Holmes

Partner: Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation

3. Draper Trails Management Plan and Corner Canyon Master Plan

Project Goal: Draper is a rapidly developing small city in the Salt Lake Metropolitan Area. Successful planning and development ordinances have secured open spaces and extensive trail rights-of-way. Nearly 60 miles of trails, ranging from mountain paths to paved bicycle trails, have been developed, but lack planning, management, and maintenance. In 2004, a successful bond issue provided funds to acquire 1021 acres in Corner Canyon, where the Wasatch and Traverse Ranges join.

RTCA Role: RTCA is assisting Draper City in development of a management plan for the maintenance of an extensive city trail system and a master plan for protection and recreational use of the newly purchased Corner Canyon Regional Park. RTCA has facilitated public planning meetings and plan development; assisted trail and open space standards development; conducted Corner Canyon resource inventory; conducted trail mapping and condition assessment; proposed management practices and staffing recommendations; and made budget and funding recommendations. City adoption of the Corner Canyon Master Plan occurred in August 2006.

NPS Contact: Duane Holmes

Partner: Draper City Engineering

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Current Projects

4. Parley's Creek Trail

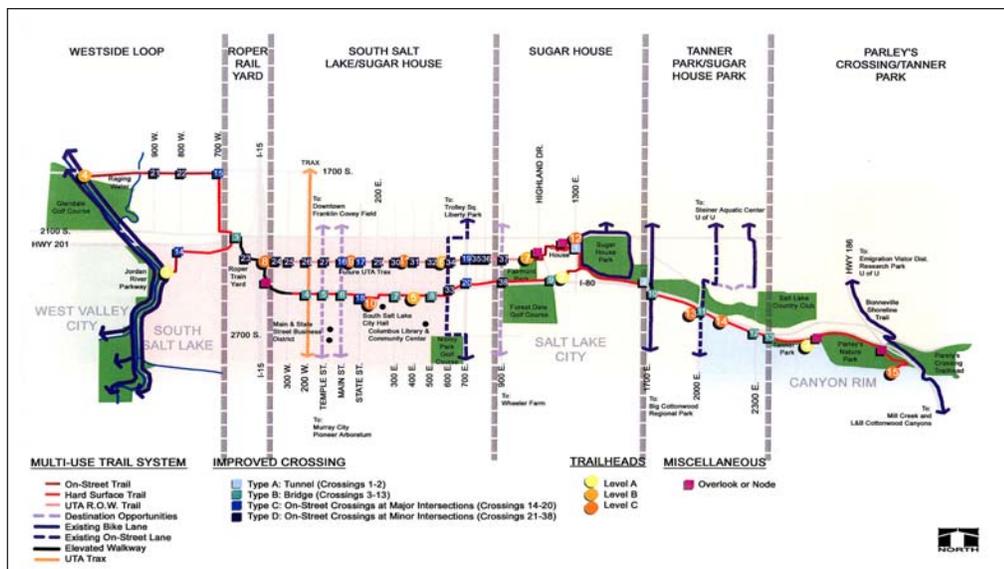
Project Goal: Parley's Creek Trail will be an eight-mile greenway and trail through the heart of Salt Lake City. A large group of cooperators organized as the PRATT Coalition guides action plan development for the trail and coordination of actions of several agencies within the corridor. The paved trail will be the east-west link between the two major north-south greenways of the Salt Lake Valley. Unique developments will include separated grade interstate highway crossings, bridges on major city arterial streets, and a rails-with-trails development on a commuter rail line. Remaining vestiges of open space will be claimed for linkages between existing parks in the corridor. The trail corridor will connect city neighborhoods, providing access for underserved populations.

RTCA Role: RTCA is assisting in project planning, partnerships development, and fund raising. Salt Lake County completed a corridor master plan. Major construction funding has been authorized in the federal transportation re-authorization bill. City and County funds have been appropriated to match federal funds. Three design studies and one construction contract started in January 2007.

NPS Contact: Duane Holmes
Partner: PRATT Coalition

5. Daggett County Trails and Pathways

Project Goal: The smallest populated county in Utah is rich with natural resources, breathtaking scenery, recreation opportunities and classic frontier history. Manila and Dutch John, the only two towns in the county are surrounded by public lands and are greatly impacted by the 60,000 visitors on holiday weekends. Although trails and pathways exist on public lands, they do not link to the towns that would enable residents and visitors to connect with the natural resources and recreation destinations on public lands. A system of trails and pathways would also make it possible for



Funding is in place for the Parley's Creek Trail to begin construction through the heart of Salt Lake City.

people to safely walk and bike to stores, schools, post office, town and county offices and other sites within the communities.

RTCA Role: RTCA will continue the effort to create a trails coalition, organize partnerships and public involvement, identify potential routes, and work together on new recreation and healthy lifestyle opportunities.

NPS Contact: Kay Salazar
Partner: Daggett County

6. Cedar City Trails System Plan

Project Goal: Cedar City is one of the fastest growing urban areas in Utah and the United States, growing 16 per cent in population between the 2000 census and 2002. The city and county are concerned about a lack of planning for parks and trails, the absence of standards for recreation amenities in private developments, and a loss of access to public lands on the city boundaries.

RTCA Role: RTCA assisted Cedar City to develop a Trails System Plan. The plan will be adopted as part of the Cedar City Comprehensive Plan. RTCA's role included trail standards recommendations, model planning and zoning ordinance recommendations, grant recommendations, and public meeting facilitation. RTCA facilitated public meetings to define specific desirable trail routes and connections.

This information led to adoption of an interim planning and zoning ordinance that allows Cedar City to negotiate with developers for trail and park dedications. Cedar Breaks National Monument is an active sponsor of the project.

NPS Contact: Duane Holmes
Partner: Cedar City Economic Development

7. Great Basin National Heritage Route

Project Goal: A coalition of tourism and historic preservation interests in Millard County, Utah and White Pine County, Nevada have formed the Great Basin National Heritage Area Partnership. The "Great Basin National Heritage Area" was designated in congressional legislation signed by the President in late 2006. RTCA has provided assistance in strategic planning and resource planning, as well as making partnership contacts in Utah.

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NPS Contact: Martha Crusius
Partner: Great Basin Heritage Area Partnership